Economic Overview And Outlook: Pennsylvania

JOBS

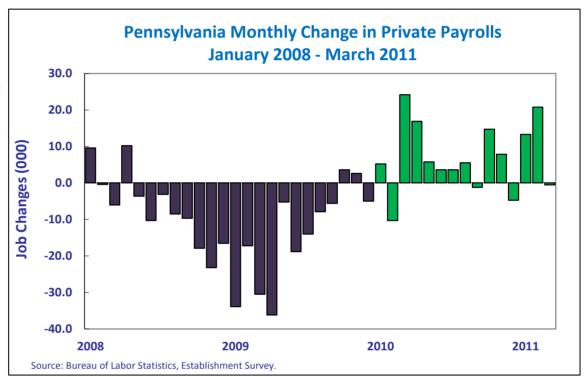
- In March, the private sector gained jobs nationwide for 13 consecutive months.
- In Pennsylvania, private sector employment fell by 5.2 percent from January 2008 to February 2010. Since February 2010, private sector employment has grown by 2.3 percent.
- In Pennsylvania, employees in the construction, manufacturing, and information services sectors faced the largest job losses (as a percent of employment within an industry) over the recession. Since the beginning of 2010, the following sectors in Pennsylvania have experienced the greatest employment increases: mining; education and health services; and construction.*
- As the economy recovers from the Great Recession, service-providing industries are projected to add the most jobs between 2008 and 2018, with the largest gains in professional and business services, education, health care and social assistance, and State and local government. Within the goods-producing sector of the economy, only the construction industry is projected to add jobs above its 2008 level.

EMPLOYMENT

- The unemployment rate in Pennsylvania was 7.8 percent in March 2011, up 3.3 percentage points from December 2007, but down from its most recent peak of 8.8 percent in April 2010.
- 496,000 Pennsylvania residents were counted among the unemployed in Pennsylvania during March 2011.

EARNINGS

Between the start of the recession in the 4th quarter of 2007 and the 3rd quarter of 2009, inflation-adjusted total personal income in the United States declined 2.2 percent. Most recently, in the 4th quarter of 2010, total personal income is 0.3 percent above its 4th quarter of 2007 level.



Real per capita personal income (in 2005 \$) in Pennsylvania was \$37,575.10 in the 4th quarter of 2010, up from \$37,177.50 in the 4th quarter of 2008.

Housing

- National home prices, including distressed sales, saw a decrease of 6.7 percent in February 2011 from February 2010 compared to a 5.5 percent decrease in January. In Pennsylvania, home prices saw a decrease of 3.4 percent in February 2011 from February 2010 following January's year over year decrease of 3.4 percent.
- The median price of single-family homes in Pennsylvania was \$153,439 in the second quarter of 2010, compared to \$180,176 nationwide.
- As of the 4th quarter of 2010, 3.2 percent of all mortgages, including 11.8 percent of subprime mortgages, were in foreclosure in Pennsylvania.
- Housing starts in Pennsylvania totaled 15,370 units (seasonally adjusted annual rate) in February 2011, a decrease of 43.5 percent from January.
- Within the Northeast census region, which includes Pennsylvania, sales of new single-family homes totaled 15,000 units in February 2011, a decrease of 57.1 percent from January. Sales of existing single-family homes increased 1.7 percent to 590,000 units (at seasonally adjusted annual rates) from February to March 2011.

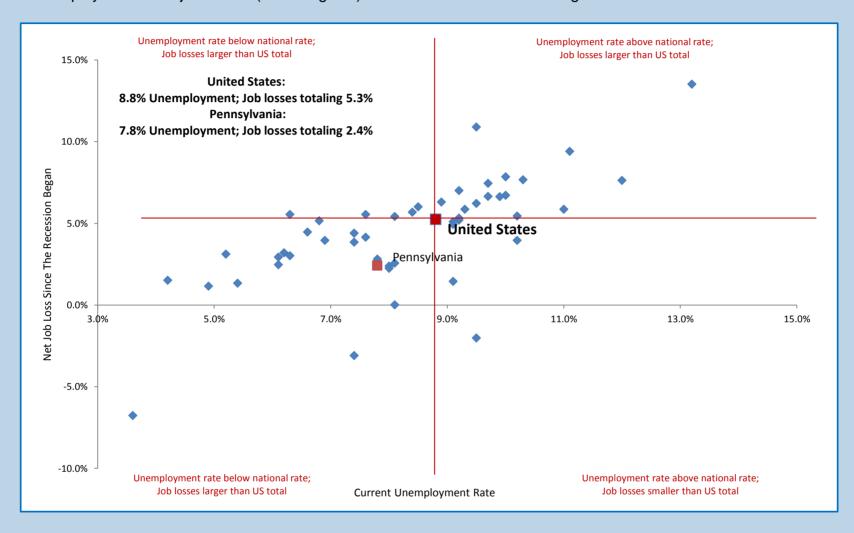
^{*} For Pennsylvania-specific labor sector statistics, please refer to the Pennsylvania office: http://www.paworkstats.state.pa.us/

How Does Pennsylvania Compare To Other States?

Workers across the country were hard hit during the Great Recession. Although labor markets in many states have started recovering, employment in most states still remains below pre-recession levels. The chart below allows you to compare Pennsylvania to other states using two metrics.

The current unemployment rate (measured along the horizontal axis) serves as a gauge of current labor market conditions faced by residents, while the proportion of jobs lost within Pennsylvania since the start of the recession (shown along the vertical axis) measures the toll the recession took on the job supply in Pennsylvania.

States falling in the upper right quadrant have lost a disproportionate share of jobs, relative to the total United States, and have unemployment rates higher than the national unemployment rate. States falling in the lower left quadrant have unemployment rates job losses (or even gains) lower than the national average.



STATE QUICK FACTS

		Pennsylvania	United States
Unemployment Rates	. March 2008	4.8%	5.1%
	March 2009	7.5%	8.6%
	March 2010	8.8%	9.7%
	March 2011	7.8%	8.8%
Percent of Population Who Are Veterans	. 2009	6.7%	7.1%
Veterans' Unemployment Rate	2009	9.5%	8.9%
Median Household Income	2007	\$ 50,107	\$ 51,965
(2009 \$)	2009	\$ 48,172	\$ 49,777
Poverty Rate	. 2007	10.4%	12.5%
	2009	11.1%	14.3%
No Health Insurance	2007	9.5%	15.3%
	2009	11.4%	16.7%